

March 12, 1976

the convention. It is very simple. You know the way that it is now, it calls for the convention to be held on a specific date. It calls for it to be held on a Thursday, the fourth Thursday following the Tuesday of the primary. Sometimes this has been rather difficult for people, clear across the state at this time of the year, in June, I know that Cal and a lot of the others would understand that people are certainly busy the first of June. They are busy out in the fields and it is just hard to get away on a specific date. So, this change would do this. Instead of a specific date, a Thursday, it would say a convention could be held in any of the first seven days of June. That is all that there is too it. I would hope that you would vote for it.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Any discussion? If not, the question is to advance LB787 as amended to E & R Initial. All those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Clerk will record.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays and 19 not voting.

SENATOR SAVAGE: The bill is advanced. Next bill is 826.

CLERK: Read 826. Senator Rumery offers a set of amendments.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Chair recognizes Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President, members of the legislature. This bill is a part of the bill that we have had for some time 66-468, which had to do with the processing of agricultural products. Now the reason that we have done this is that we think that it will save on administration costs, we will use the same committee that is appointed by the Governor, approved by the Legislature. It is one that spells out the need for the bill. Those of you who did not participate or hear the bill before the agriculture committee during the public hearing, missed the testimony that was given by Dr. Bill Shellers who is a chemical engineer at the University of Nebraska. He pointed out that there are already has been a considerable amount of research work done on coal. In fact the Germans used it up until 1947 for a lot of their commercial production. They had an opportunity then to buy oil, which at that time was apparently cheaper than the coal. We already know a considerable amount the products that come from coal, but we need to know more as to how it will be, whether it will be feasible or not to extract the materials from the coal before it is....before the product that is left over is burned in the furnace. There are a tremendous amount of products that can be obtained from coal. It has been estimated that when the coal fire plants get going in this state that there will be produced a hundred thousand barrels of tar per day. This compares to....this is those in Nebraska, this compares to the amount of gas that is used in the state which is about 59,000 barrels. Some of the products that are obtained from this tar include the plastics, the nitrogen fertilizer, sulfur and on and on. There are many products that can be obtained from here and it has been estimated that the products that will be obtained can actually pay for the price of coal and we have got the coal left to burn. This coal, or coke like product is many